

Statement from Barnaby Joyce to 7.30. 22 October 2019

I have been fighting for a better policy outcome for those dealing with drought since delivering the White Paper on Agriculture. At that point I was presented with the policy of an extremely limited access to Farm Household Allowance, as Labor believed that farmers just had to accept drought.

I have made sure substantial funds were available for mental health.

I will always try and be as honest as I can with what I believe can be delivered in policy. To say everything is possible is to lie. The bottom line is that government does not have money, taxpayers do, and they would not accept support to any sector of the economy in perpetuity. I don't believe the taxpayer would accept that if any business has not made a profit in the last ten years that the taxpayer has a continual role in support.